

Public Notice – Environmental Permit

PURPOSE OF NOTICE: To seek public comments on two draft permits from the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to limit air pollution emitted by a facility in Rockingham County, Virginia.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: August 13, 2006 to September 12, 2006

PERMIT NAMES: A Federal Operating Permit and a Project XL Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) permit, both issued by DEQ under the authority of the Air Pollution Control Board

APPLICANT NAME AND ADDRESS: Merck & Co., Inc., 2778 South East Side Highway, Elkton, Virginia 22827

FACILITY NAME, ADDRESS AND REGISTRATION NUMBER: Merck & Co., Inc., Elkton Plant, same address as above; Registration 80524

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Merck & Co., Inc. (Merck) has applied for a renewal of its federal operating permit to operate a pharmaceuticals manufacturing facility in Elkton, Rockingham County. The draft renewal permit includes a transition to operate as a major source of hazardous air pollutants (HAPs) on January 1, 2008. Upon the transition, Merck will be subject to all requirements of 40 CFR 63 Subpart GGG (National Emission Standards for HAPs for Pharmaceuticals Production). Detailed compliance obligations for Subpart GGG are included in the renewal permit. The renewal permit allows Merck to delay its transition to major HAP source status for six-month increments upon notification to DEQ.

Merck's application proposes the use of the 40 CFR 63 Subpart GGG definition of maximum true vapor pressure at 40 CFR 63.1251 as a replicable operating procedure (ROP) for determining storage tank applicability under Management of Change provisions proposed in Section V of the draft Title V permit. Reference to the definition has been included in the draft permit and may be established in the final permit as a ROP following EPA and public review.

Merck has also applied for a modification to its Project XL PSD permit, to reflect changes agreed to by Project XL stakeholders at the five-year periodic review meeting held July 28, 2005. Changes include the addition of monitoring triggers based on actual emissions of nitrogen oxides and sulfur dioxide (in addition to the existing trigger based on total facility emissions); revision of monthly calculation due date (from 30 to 60 days after each month); the allowance of using the HAP monitoring required in Section IV of Merck's federal operating permit to constitute compliance with Project XL permit monitoring for a given control device, where the operating permit monitoring is more stringent than the applicable XL permit monitoring; and miscellaneous administrative changes.

The facility is classified as a major source of air pollution. The draft permits are being concurrently reviewed as proposed permits by the Environmental Protection Agency.

HOW TO COMMENT: DEQ accepts comments by e-mail, fax or postal mail. All comments must include the name, address and telephone number of the person commenting and be received by DEQ within the comment period. The public may review the draft permits and applications at the DEQ office named below. The draft permits are also available on the DEQ web site at

www.deq.virginia.gov/info/publicnotices.html. The public may request a public hearing. Written comments must include: (1) The names, mailing addresses and telephone numbers of the person commenting and of all people represented by the citizen; (2) If a public hearing is requested, the reason for holding a hearing, including associated concerns; (3) A brief, informal statement regarding the extent of the interest of the person commenting, including how the operation of the facility or activity affects the citizen.

CONTACT FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS, DOCUMENT REQUESTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Mr. Janardan Pandey, Valley Regional Office, 4411 Early Road, P.O. Box 3000, Harrisonburg, Virginia, 22801

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